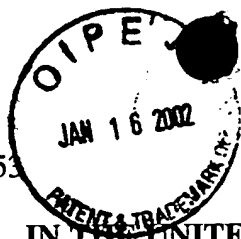


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Group Art Unit: to be assigned
)
CIPRIANI, Franco et al.) Examining Attorney: to be assigned
)
Serial No.: 09/871,353)
)
Filed: May 30, 2001)
)
For: Functionalized Thiophene Oligomers)
and Their Use As Fluorescent)
Markers (as amended)) Pasadena, California

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

ATTENTION: BOX MISSING PARTS

In the above-identified United States patent application, please amend the
application as follows:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO:
BOX MISSING PARTS, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231 ON November 2, 2001

BY: ELAINE PORTER

Elaine Porter